

History of Edray Community

Edray Community is bounded on the west by Stony Creek range of mountains, on the north by Elk Mountain, to the top of Skippery Hill on the Clover Creek road, then to the Bridger Place on the Grumbier River where Paul Sharp now lives, on the south by the top of river ridges including the Fairview and Brush Settlements, to the top Primrose Ridge where the state road crosses, to Elmer Sharps at the foot of Stony Creek Mountain. This community is about five miles wide where the state road crosses and ten miles long from east to west.

First section.
The farmhouse was the first section
in Cedar Community. Thomas Johnson
settled here in the Cedar graveyard.
There is some distance of ground
as to the space apart from the
Johnson (Cedar) street. But I feel
sure it was on the same lot
close to the graveyard. A spring
under the tank has always
since my earliest recollection
been called the Johnson Spring.
This proof is an old apple
orchard, full of large size, the
mainly white apple was the
about 1830 the Cedar street.
My father gave some seed to
the orchard in the fall with
the space for white apple in
the year, which day, the day

enough to pick apples from the ground. My Uncle Robert Moore and his boys always called this field the "Old Orchard Field" and it goes by that name yet. A part of the field belongs to A. R. Gay and the other part belongs to Wm. M. Sharp's heirs, all of which once belonged to Thomas Grinnon first settler in this community. He owned a large boundary of land, several thousand acres that extended from Indian Draft to Stony Creek. Grinnon's Ridge took its name from the old settler, an everlasting monument. Grinnon's home was broken up by the Indians. His wife was captured and taken away.

She was murdered somewhere
in Elk Mountain.

Charles Drinnon, a brother of
Thomas Drinnon settled near
Luts. He cleared a field which
bears the name "Charley Field"
which is now owned by Anderson
Barlow.

The Drinnons all left this
country many years ago. I
remember seeing James Drinnon
a member of this distinguished
family. I think the Drinnons
went to the northwestern part
of this state.

Robert Moore, my grandfather
who was a son of Moses Moore
who was captured by the Indians.
(See H. T. Price's History of Oklahoma
for a full account of this capture)

Robert Moore, Sr. once lived at the Bridger Place, reared his family there. My father Isaac Moore was born and raised there. One brother Andrew fell from a tree and was killed while other members of the family were stirring off a Kettle of sugar. About 1820 Robert Moore Sr. moved to Edray and settled on the Drinnon holdings. He and his boys opened up a fine farm and erected a fine two story brick dwelling house - The only brick building in the community. I believe the lumber that went into the house was all sawed with the whip saw, as at that time there was no water power

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saw mill. The road as was
extensively used in getting
out all heavy timber for
buildings. Robert Moore and
his wife lived and died in
the brick mansion. Buried in
the Edray Graveyard. He was
born 1768, died 1858, age 90 yrs.
His wife born 1771, died 1855,
age 84 years. These graves were
the first in Edray Graveyard.
Robert Moore's real estate was
divided with his boys and one
daughter. The names of the sons
were Isaac, James, William,
and Robert Jr. Robert received
the old homestead, lived there
many years, sold to J. W. Sharp
about 1867 for seven thousand

douars. That included the upper part of the place now owned by Isaac Sharp's heirs. I want to say just here, there was an old house stood about halfway between ~~there~~ the old brick house and the gate at the road. I think the old settler built and occupied this house while the brick house was being erected. When I was a small boy elections were held in the old house. There was no ticket or ballot used. The Commissioner or Conductor of Election asked the voter: "Who do you vote for?" My father Isaac Moore

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My father Isaac Moore
... the road where I

now live. Father's house was a
hewed log house, about 16 x 20 ft.
shaved shingle roof, chinked
and daubed walls, one door
and one window in the first
story and same in second
story. The porch was on the
side and stairs went up
from porch. In 1911 I built
a new frame house on the
spot where the old house
stood. R. S. Jordan and
Jef. Kellingworth were the
contractors.

The soil of Edray Community
is productive. The upland is
largely limestone naturally
rod with blue grass when
shale is taken off. The flat

land below the mountains is sandstone, not as rich as the limestone and not so good for grazing but better for farming when improved.

Produces well and less liable to wash from heavy rains.

As to timber in this community it has been covered with all kinds of hard wood, bass wood, some spruce high on the mountains, hemlock along streams. Some of the most valuable timber is black walnut, ash, cherry, red oak, white oak, a great deal of which has been cut and shipped. Other hard woods are chestnut oak, some black oak, pin oak and sugar.

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There is some yellow pine on the flats.

Edray Community can boast of the best water in the state. Both limestone and free stone. There are many bowled springs around the foot of the mountains, always flowing, never dry. Namely at Elmer Sharpe, E. R. Sharpe, also a sulphur spring at E. R. Sharpe, bowled spring at The Cochran Place, at A. C. Barlowe head of Big Spring now owned by Bank of Marinton and sufficient to run a grist mill with twenty foot overshot water wheel.

Other bowled springs at M. K. Sharpe. & it is

Drinnon Spring at Mrs. J. M. Price
at Edray. John D. Gay owns
head of Indian Draft. Other
fine springs not named. There
are many drilled wells in
the flats, all good water.

Some of the first schools
were taught in the old farm
house. One among the first,
if not the first was in an
old house near Mrs. Geo. Baxter's
home. The house was a round
log structure, clapboard roof
held in place with pine poles.
The fire place took up most
of one end of the house. It
was made of rough stone,
chimney made of slate and
mud. Now for light, paper

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Was fasted over cracks and
greased to give light. Other
cracks in the building were
chinked and daubed. Seats
were made of split logs or
poles, holes bored and pine
put in for legs. The term
of school was about three months.
The salary was one dollar per
scholar a month. Writing was
done with quill pens. The
teacher boarded with scholars.
My father Isaac Moore taught
at this school when a young
man. The first schools were
called Open Schools - everyone
spelled and read aloud. The
first school I attended was
Indian Craft now called

Mt. Pleasant. The building was constructed of round logs, chinked and daubed, covered with boards, a rough stone chimney and large fireplace. Seats were of split logs or poles set on wooden pine. Figuring all done on slate. No ^{lead} pencils or tablets used in those days. The writing was done with quill pen. The desk to write on was a plank against the wall. One or two small windows, and for additional light greased paper pasted over cracks.

The first Church in Edray Community was built on Stony Creek and called Hamlin Chapel. It is a newed log building.

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Cracks chinked and daubed, shaved shingle roof, side galleries, seat-long benches with slat backs. Door in one end of building, elevated pulpit in other end. Two small, twelve light windows on sides. Some years ago the side galleries were taken out and building ceiled, benches were taken out and chairs put in. This church is still in use and was built near 1835 as the records show it was deeded July 4, 1835.

Edray Church was built in 1883. E. D. King was contractor and builder. Contract price above foundation \$700.00 for his work. Lakin & Peters furnished about

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twenty thousand feet of lumber
from their mill at Clover Lick
delivered at the Gay siding,
now the Fair Ground for
ten dollars per thousand - white
pine lumber. All heavy lumber
was sawed at Edray by
R. L. Garber & Bros. Everything
summed up, all told the
Edray Church cost \$2032.25.

Edray Post Office was the
first post office in Edray
Community. When looking for
a name Mrs. Eliza Moore,
mother of the late Geo. P. Moore
being a Bible reader suggested
a Bible name. Said "Call the
Post office Edrei." Leaving off the
ei and adding ry making

Edray the name of the first Post Office. (See Numbers 21: 33) This office was established about 1850. As soon as Geo. P. Moore was of age he became Post Master and continued to be until his death in 1922. He was the oldest Post Master in the U. S.

There are now six churches in Edray Community, nine frame school buildings, about one hundred and ten families averaging five members to the family estimated at five hundred and fifty.

About five miles of state road in this community. One the Point of Wolf Pen Ridge on Elk

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Mountain from the state road a very fine view of our Community can be had and we challenge all N. Va. for a more beautiful scene than the Community and surrounding mountains. The roads are in fair condition. Travel is done mostly by automobile.

Main routes and telephones throughout the Community.

The village of Edray has two stores at present. The first store at Edray was kept and owned by William Allen at the place where Elmer Poage now live. Isaac McNeil, Geo. P. Moore and Amos Barlow kept store at this same place years ago.

Geo. P. Moore built the store building that A. R. Gay now occupies.

At one time there was a successful tan yard in Edray run by A. J. Smith and Brothers.

Robert Moore Sr. built a mill at the head of Big Spring. This house was a hewed log building, two or more stories high, equipped with a twenty foot breast water wheel, and water came from head of spring. This water never freezes let in winter nor goes dry in summer. Inside equipment of mill consisted of two sets of runners, both Country made one for grinding wheat and the other for grinding corn.

~~and Chops.~~

The first sawmill of the Community was built near the grist mill by Isaac Moore and got water from the same source as grist mill. These mills were used for many years and was one of the important business center of the Community.

~~Viewing the~~
 We see that old things have passed away and all things have become new.

Respectfully submitted,
 S. B. Moore

Viewing the past and present
 we see